

BIG LEAF MAPLE



Latin Name: *Acer macrophyllum*

Description: This broad-leaved, deciduous tree grows 40-100 feet tall, with a single trunk 2-4 feet in diameter, and can have a branch spread of up to 50 feet. Greenish-yellow flowers appear in the spring before the leaves, and hang in cylindrical clusters. Fruits are winged, and disperse by flying "helicopter style".

Habitat: Lowland areas, usually in moist, well-drained soils, but also on dry sites. Almost never in saturated soils. In mixed stands with conifers, along stream banks, and in the open. Full sun to partial shade.

Wildlife Uses: Wildlife eat seeds, leaves, and new sprouts. Flowers are an early nectar source for bees and other insects. Provides cover and nesting sites for birds and other wildlife.

BLACK COTTONWOOD



Latin Name: *Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa*

Description: This deciduous tree grows 100-200 feet tall and 3-6 feet in diameter. The upper sides of leaves are shiny and dark bronze-green. The undersides are pale and silvery-gray. Male and female flowers occur in drooping catkins on separate plants (male clusters grow to 1½ inches long, female clusters 3-8 inches). In the late spring, the air fills with masses of seeds and their cottony hairs.

Habitat: Along river and stream banks, lake shores, and in forested wetlands. Moist soil. Full sun. Tolerates seasonal flooding. Sometimes forms pure stands.

Wildlife Uses: Used by numerous small mammals and birds for cover, roosting, and nesting sites. Mature and standing dead trees make excellent habitat for cavity-dwellers such as woodpeckers. Provides food for mountain beavers, beavers, deer, and elk. Attracts insects and the birds that eat them.

RED ALDER



Latin Name: *Alnus rubra*

Description: This tree has thin, smooth, gray bark, frequently with patches of white lichen, and grows 30-120 feet tall. Leaves are deciduous, alternate, and are 3-6 inches long. Male and female flowers are on the same tree and appear in catkins before the leaves. The small, winged seeds are shed August to October from small, brown cones that remain on the tree for several years.

Habitat: Disturbed sites, landslides, stream banks, moist woods, wetlands, and floodplains. Grows in various types of disturbed soils. Tolerates drought, flooding, or brackish conditions. Full sun to partial shade.

Wildlife Uses: Deer and elk browse the leaves, as do large numbers of invertebrates (which, in turn, feed many insect-eating bird species). Beaver use the branches. Larger trees provide habitat for numerous cavity-nesting birds and small mammals. Seeds are eaten by some birds and small mammals, and are an important source of food for overwintering birds. Hosts butterfly caterpillars.

GRAND FIR



Latin Name: *Abies grandis*

Description: This tall (100-250 feet), straight evergreen tree can be identified by its flat, shiny, dark-green needles; its green to yellow-green or greenish-purple cones; and its bark, which is grayish with light-colored mottling. Needles are 1-1½ inches long, have two white lines on their undersides, and look like they are on opposite sides of each branch. Cones are cylindrical, 2- 4 inches long, held upright, and are found only on higher branches, where they remain through autumn as they gradually fall apart.

Habitat: Dry to moist coniferous or mixed forests, from dry mountain slopes to river valleys. Prefers deep, well-drained, alluvial soils. Full sun to partial shade: although seedlings are shade-tolerant, older trees require full sun.

Wildlife Uses: Provides cover and nesting sites for wildlife. Seeds are eaten by numerous birds, Douglas squirrel, and Townsend chipmunk.

DOUGLAS FIR



Latin Name: *Pseudotsuga menziesii* var. *menziesii*

Description: This massive (100-250 feet tall), fast-growing conifer is a common and familiar tree in Western Washington. It can be identified by its tall, straight trunk and corky, brown bark which becomes deeply furrowed on older trees. The 3-4 inch cones consist of woody, brown scales with protruding, papery, three-pointed seed bracts.

Habitat: Throughout the Pacific Northwest in all but the wettest and driest sites, often growing in mixed stands with hemlock and redcedar. Does best in deep, moist, sandy loams; poorest on gravelly soils. Prefers full sun.

Wildlife Uses: Seeds are eaten by numerous birds and small mammals. Deer and grouse eat new shoots. Plants also provide many species of wildlife with shelter, nest sites, and insects (food).

SHORE PINE



Latin Name: *Pinus contorta* var. *contorta*

Description: This pine is our only native two-needled pine. In exposed areas near the Pacific coast, it grows 15-50 feet tall, often with a crooked trunk, bushy form, and windblown crown. Slightly further inland, it can have a similar form, or grow as a straight tree to a height of 100 feet with an irregular, pillowy crown. Needles are deep green, stiff, sharp-pointed, 1-3 inches long, and paired. Cones are numerous, small (1-2 inches long), egg-shaped, usually covered with sharp prickles.

Habitat: A highly-adaptable species found in saturated to excessively well-drained soils. Occurs along the coast and on lowlands, especially on marshy or gravelly sites, where Douglas-fir and western hemlock can't grow well enough to exclude it. Also found in sphagnum bogs in some areas of Western Washington. Tolerant of low-nutrient soils. Full sun.

Wildlife Uses: Used by numerous species of wildlife, some of which eat the seeds, others eat the insects attracted to it, and some use the tree for cover. Porcupines eat the bark.

WESTERN HEMLOCK



Latin Name: *Tsuga heterophylla*

Description: This evergreen conifer with drooping branches and furrowed, dark-brown to reddish-brown bark grows to 225 feet tall. It can often be identified from a distance by the drooping new growth at the top of the tree. Needles on the same branch vary in length from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; are flat, distinctly grooved, glossy yellow-green above, with two broad, white stripes below; and form flat sprays. Cones turn from green to brown at maturity, and are abundant, one inch long, oval-shaped, attach directly to the branch, and fall intact to the ground.

Habitat: Throughout the region, especially in moist conditions. Does best on deep, moist, well-drained soils, and requires high organic content in the soil. Full sun to full shade, though seedlings are often dried out by full sun. Can be found in pure stands or mixed with other species. Not drought-tolerant.

Wildlife Uses: Provides food, nesting, and cover (especially winter cover) for birds and mammals. Seeds are eaten by several species of birds and small mammals.

WESTERN REDCEDAR



Latin Name: *Thuja plicata*

Description: This evergreen conifer can grow over 200 feet tall, with a massive (3-10 feet in diameter) tapering trunk that flares at the base to form buttresses. Bark is thin, shaggy, reddish, and easily peels off into long strips. Needles are flat, overlapping like scales, and are shiny bright-green above, and paler on the underside with white markings. The needles form flattened sprays on drooping branches that turn up at the tips. Cones are clustered near the ends of branches, and are bluish-green when young, becoming brown, half-inch, tulip-shaped cones with woody scales.

Habitat: Prefers moist to swampy soils. Full sun to full shade, though seedlings require some shade. Tolerates seasonal flooding and perennially-saturated soils.

Wildlife Uses: Seeds are eaten by numerous species of birds. Deer and elk browse seedlings. Provides nesting sites and cover for many species of birds and small mam-